

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) and (b) A nation-wide study of quantitative assessment of harvest and post-harvest losses for 46 agricultural produces in 106 randomly selected districts was carried out by Central Institute of Post Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET) Ludhiana, an ICAR institution. As per the report released in 2010, the extent of harvest and post-harvest losses in fruits vary from 5.8% to 18% and in case of vegetables from 6.88% to 12.98%. The study has estimated harvest and post-harvest losses of major agricultural produces at national level was of the order of ₹44143 crore per annum at 2009 wholesale prices.

(c) From time to time the Ministry of Food Processing Industries sanctions Mega Food Parks and Cold Chain Projects in pursuance of Expression of Interest (Eoi). So far, through such Eoi's, Ministry had approved 42 Mega Food Parks and 129 Cold Chain Projects in the country.

(d) A Mega Food Park sanctioned in the name of M/s Jharkhand Mega Food Park Private Limited at Getalsud, Ranchi. It is in an area of 51.50 acres at an approved project cost of ₹114.74 crore (Approx). Project approved on 27.03.2009. A grant of ₹50.00 crore has been approved by the Ministry to the project and ₹30.00 crore has been released till date. The Ministry has not sanctioned any cold chain project in the State of Jharkhand due to non receipt of eligible proposal.

Facilities to youth to set up food processing units

‡3080. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether special grant is given to the youth to set up food processing units, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether facilities would be provided to encourage the young men and women to set up food processing units, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) In order to facilitate prospective entrepreneurs including youths/women for setting up of food processing units, Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) had launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) implemented through State/UT Governments during 12th Five Year Plan. Under the Mission, one of the schemes is for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries, which aims at creation of new processing capacity and up-gradation of existing processing capabilities in sectors. Under the scheme, financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid is provided to entrepreneurs as per following pattern of assistance:

- 25% of the cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works, subject to a maximum of ₹ 50 lakhs in general areas.
- 33.33% of the cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works, subject to a maximum of ₹ 75 lakhs in difficult areas (*i.e.* Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep) and Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP) areas.
- 50% of the cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works, subject to a maximum of ₹100 lakhs for North-Eastern States including Sikkim.

All the State/UT Governments have been empowered to receive the applications, sanction and release of grant-in-aid to the eligible beneficiaries including youths/women under the NMFP. States also have flexibility in selection of location of projects as well as beneficiaries, to harness the potential of value addition by using locally grown raw material.

(b) Under the above scheme of the Mission, all implementing agencies/Organizations such as Government/PSUs/Joint Ventures/NGOs/Cooperatives/SHGs/Private Sector/Individuals including youth/women engaged in establishment/upgradation/modernization of food processing units would be eligible for financial assistance under the scheme.

Cold storage capacity in Tamil Nadu

3081. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to augment cold storage capacity in the country, particularly in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the steps likely to be taken in the next five years to augment the cold storage facility in the State, and if not, the reasons therefor?